



Iranian political prisoner

Laleh Hassanpour

Born July 29, 1980 in Tehran, Iran

Laleh Hassanpour is a writer, women's rights and human rights activist who is serving a one-year prison term with a four-year suspended sentence.

On March 16, 2010, the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) arrested Laleh Hassanpour after raiding her home. After her arrest, Laleh was imprisoned in Ward 2A of Evin prison, where she spent over two months in solitary confinement and underwent intensive interrogation at the hands of the IRGC.

In a phone call with her family in April 2010, Laleh explained that she has been placed under severe pressure by the authorities to give a false televised confession. As soon as she informed her family of her mistreatment, prison guards reportedly yelled at her and disconnected the telephone call.

In a trial on November 9, 2010, Judge Pir Abbasi of Branch 26 of the Tehran Revolutionary Court sentenced Laleh to one year of imprisonment with four additional years of suspended imprisonment. Her suspended imprisonment means that after serving her one-year sentence, if Laleh continues her human rights activities, she will be returned to prison for another four years.

The charges against Laleh included: "conspiracy against national security," "anti-state propaganda," membership in and activism for the rights group Human Rights Activists in Iran and its news agency HRANA, "insulting the President," and "insulting what is sacred."

On June 2, 2010, Laleh was released on \$100,000 bail. Laleh appealed her verdict, but her sentence was upheld by Branch 36 of the Tehran Appeals Court on April 10, 2011. That same day, Laleh received a written summons to appear before the court and begin serving her sentence in Evin prison.